

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena

September 1997

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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Allen County

Fort Wayne

10 0130EST
0330EST

0

0

1K

Flash Flood

Three to four inches of rain in Fort Wayne and Northern Allen County put city streets and county roads underwater. Basements were flooded in the city.

INDIANA, Central

Miami County

10 S Peru

19 1950EST

0

0

1.5K

Thunderstorm Wind

Thunderstorm winds blew down several trees in the southern part of the county.

MICHIGAN, West

Hillsdale County

Allen

09 2300EST
10 0700EST

0

0

Flood

The Hillsdale County Sheriff's Department reported several rural roads in Allen Township were washed out.

Hillsdale County

Hillsdale

09 2300EST
10 0700EST

0

0

Flood

The Hillsdale County Sheriff's Department reported parts of Michigan Highway 99 were flooded in and around the city of Hillsdale.

Branch County

Coldwater

19 1830EST

0

0

2.5K

Thunderstorm Wind

A large tree was downed onto a home on Polk Street in Coldwater.

A strong cold front moving across the Great Lakes region collided with warm, moist, and unstable air across the southern Lower Peninsula on Friday afternoon, September 19, 1997. Thunderstorms developed ahead of the cold front. One mini supercell formed over Lake Michigan shortly after Noon EDT, then moved across Ottawa and Kent Counties before dissipating. The super cell produced hail up to 1 1/2" in diameter and yielded many reports of a rotating wall cloud, however no funnel clouds were reported. Later in the afternoon, a line of severe thunderstorms moved across southwest and south central Lower Michigan, producing wind gusts to 70 mph and small hail. Trees and power lines were downed in a line from Allegan County east-southeast through Jackson County. Around 10,000 customers in this swath lost power, nearly half of which occurred in Jackson County.

MIZ077>078-080>081

Berrien - Cass - Branch - Hillsdale

29 1200EST
30 0600EST

0

0

High Wind (G42)

A strong pressure gradient developed across much of the southern Lower Peninsula Monday afternoon, September 29, 1997, and continued to affect the area through the early morning hours of Tuesday, September 30th. An intense low pressure center was moving east, just north of Lake Superior, while high pressure was building to the south. The gradient between the two systems brought southwest, then west winds which gusted between 40 and 50 mph through much of Monday afternoon and night. Peak wind gusts reached 48 mph late Monday afternoon at the Kent County International Airport in Grand Rapids, the Capitol City Airport in Lansing, and W.K. Kellogg Regional Airport in Battle Creek. Gusts reached 46 mph at Jackson County Airport Monday evening and 40 mph at Muskegon County Airport Monday night, just after Midnight EDT.

The winds caused some trees and power lines to come down, which resulted in 35,000 power outages across the region. Felled trees blocked a few isolated roads across the area for a brief time including Vicary Road in Hillsdale, Woodbridge and Union Streets in Jackson, and Grove Street in Greenville. The roof of a business in Plainwell was damaged. A tree fell on a home in Kalamazoo and another on a home in East Lansing. A tree came down onto 2 cars in the village of Marcellus in Cass County. No injuries were reported. Damage estimates were not available for the event.